비산 飛山

BISAN (FLYING MOUNTAIN) • www.daum.net • Story and Art. PARK Hye-rim

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飛山

비산

BISAN (The Flying Mountain)

Story & Art by PARK Hye-rim

A POOR FARMSTEAD

INTO A FAMILY THAT BARELY MANAGED TO EKE OUT A LIVING DAY BY DAY.

I WAS BORN THE YOUNGEST OF FIVE BROTHERS.

FATHER HAD LONG AGO PASSED AWAY, AND MY OLDER BROTHERS WERE ALL GROWN UP AND DOING THEIR SHARE OF THE WORK.

BEING TOO YOUNG TO HELP WITH ANYTHING, I WAS BUT A WASTE OF SPACE.

MOTHER HAD HER HANDS FULL SUPPORTING THE FAMILY.

AND THE OLDER BROTHERS, ALL GROWN MEN, HAD NO TIME TO PLAY WITH THEIR YOUNGEST SIBLING.

San is a mature boy.

I had no choice but to act mature.

WHEN IT BECOMES DIFFICULT FOR A FAMILY WITH MANY CHILDREN TO MAKE ENDS MEET, THE YOUNGEST CHILD IS OFTEN ABANDONED.

FOR THE CHILD IS JUST AN EXTRA MOUTH TO FEED AND, SINCE THE CHILD IS STILL YOUNG, SOMEONE BETTER OFF MIGHT TAKE HIM IN.

BUT IN THOSE YEARS OF FAMINE, WHO HAD THE MEANS TO TAKE IN THE CHILDREN FORSAKEN EVEN BY THEIR OWN PARENTS..?

YEAR AFTER YEAR, MY FRIENDS DISAPPEARED LIKE THAT ONE BY ONE.

TO AVOID THE SAME FATE, I HAD TO BE MATURE.

AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, I NEVER CAUSED ANY TROUBLE.

I NEVER WHINED OR PESTERED FOR ATTENTION OR FOOD.

HERE.

SINCE I DIDN'T WORK, I WAS CONTENT EVEN WITH MY MEAGRE SHARE.
I COULD ENDURE HUNGER BY NOT PLAYING MUCH.
IF I WAS ABANDONED BY MY FAMILY, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO ON.
OR SO I THOUGHT...
TCH. THIS YEAR'S NO GOOD EITHER.
THE RIVER HAS DRIED UP AND WE'RE OUT OF FOOD.
WE WON'T LAST TILL NEXT YEAR LIKE THIS.
I SAW SUNDECK'S FAMILY EATING MEAT. YESTERDAY, THEY ALL DIED AND ASK FOR SOME?
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING, BIG BROTHER? HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?
THAT MEAT IS HUMAN FLESH.
WHAT...?!
AS THE DROUGHT CONTINUED, THERE WERE RUMOURS OF MAN EATING MAN.
AND IN SUCH A FAMINE, IT WAS OBVIOUS WHO WOULD BE SACRIFICED FIRST.
WE CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS.
WE'RE COMPLETELY OUT OF THINGS TO EAT. EVEN GRASS AND TREE BARK.
MOTHER HAS PASSED AWAY AND WHO KNOWS WHO'LL BE NEXT TO DEATH...

SIJIN... YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?
SWISH
YOU'RE A MATURE BOY SO YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND

WE'RE AT THE END OF THE LINE.

IF WE ... MUST STRIVE TO DIE WITH...

WE MIGHT IS WELL...?

WHOOSH
SLASH

I RAN FROM THE HOUSE AND DIDN'T STOP UNTIL I WAS BEYOND THE HILLS OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE.

TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP

WHAT TORMENTED ME CONSTANTLY AS I RAN WASN'T HUNGER OR BITTERNAL...

BUT LONELINESS
SOB..!!
HUAAAAH!
IT'S SO FRUSTRATING! I'M SO ANGRY!
SOB SOB
MATURE? ME?! BUT I HAD NO CHOICE!
THE ONLY THING THEY TOLD ME WAS TO GROW UP QUICKLY SO I COULD WORK!
SOB SOB
THEY ALWAYS LEFT ME ALONE SAYING I JUST GOT IN THEIR WAY!
SOB..!
I WANTED TO PLAY LIKE OTHER KIDS TOO!
I WANTED PIGGYBACK RIDES TOO...!
BUT I COULDN'T EVEN SAY IT IN CASE IT BOTHERED MY OLDER BROTHERS!
SOB SOB
BUT WHAT DID I GET?!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE HELD BACK! IT DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD ANYWAY!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?! I WANTED TO EAT A LOT TOO! I WAS SO HUNGRY!
SOB SOB SOB SOB
NONE OF THEM LOOKED AT ME. NO MATTER HOW MATURE I WAS!
JUST WHAT WAS I WAITING WHAT WAS I HOPING FOR ALL THAT TIME?!
SOB SOB
THIS IS SUCH CRAP! HUAAAH!

HUH
BOO
BOO
You were lonely too...
Even amidst the battle, surrounded by your many brothers...
Because you thought everything was a luxury before hunger...
You were all the more lonely...
So much so that you'd rather be alone...
THAT'S WHY.
THERE'S NO POINT STARING AT THEM.
SNIFF
SNIFF
EVEN IF THEY COULD SEE YOU, THEY WOULD RUN AWAY ALL THE SAME.
SO WHY DID YOU WASTE YOUR TIME AND WAIT FOR ME HERE...?
SNIFF
SNIFF
WHEN IT'S ALL FOR NOTHING IN THE END
...
That's not quite true. Because after a short wait...
...You came back to me...

HUU...
HUAAAH! YOU'RE REALLY ANNOYING!
THUD
NUMCH NUMCH
You must've been very hungry.
THUD
OF COURSE. I'VE GOTTEN SO USED TO LIVING HERE NOW THAT I COULDN'T BEAR TO EAT DIRT ANYMORE.
I see.
...
FIDGET
FIDGET
YOU KNOW...
THUD
IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO STAY WITH YOU?
THUD
That's for you to decide.
THUD
THUD
Because I will not leave you first.
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
續
TO BE CONTINUED